

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JAMES KISER AS 2018 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. James Kiser of Darien, Illinois on being named the City of Darien's Citizen of the Year for 2018. After decades of service to his community, Jim is well-deserving of this recognition. Now Mr. Speaker, you might wonder "what did he do"?

Since joining the Darien Lions Club in 1997, Jim has taken the organization's motto, "We Serve," to heart and is known around town as "Mr. Lion." He served as the Club's President from 2013 to 2014 and has held all 12 positions on the Board of Directors. In this capacity, he coordinated a 4th of July Parade, a Halloween party for children and a charity golf outing that benefitted the community.

It is clear that the Darien Lions Club is important to Jim, but his service is not limited to the group's work. Annually, he assists the Darien Chamber of Commerce in planning and setting up Darienfest. In 2005 and 2008, he coordinated the Darienfest Corn Tent, and in 2009, it was the Darienfest Beer Tent. Regardless of the role assigned to him, he finds a way to make his impact felt.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. James Kiser on being named the City of Darien's Citizen of the Year for 2018.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLES MCGAHA

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. LaMALFA. Mr. Speaker, Charles "Charlie" McGaha was born on June 22, 1927 in Sevier County, Tennessee. The youngest of nine children, the McGaha family headed out west when Charlie was four. The family traveled through Oklahoma before finally settling in Chowchilla, California where he attended local schools. After High school, he began working at Danish Creamery in Chowchilla. He joined the Navy in 1945 and served our country for two years. After his honorable discharge in 1947, he returned to work at Danish Creamery where they held his job while he served in the Navy.

In September 1951, he married the love of his life, Mary Zandona. They had two daughters, Lori and Lisa. Charlie loved to hunt, fish, and ride motorcycles. He prided himself that at the age of 45, he could go dirt bike riding and keep up with the teenagers. He retired from Danish Creamery in 1983 after working for 38 years as a foreman at both the Chowchilla and Fresno plants. Upon retiring, he learned to play golf. He enjoyed the courses at Fresno

West, Madera Municipal, and Pheasant Run in Chowchilla. On October 11, 1999 he got a Hole in One at Pheasant Run Golf Course. Charlie and Mary also enjoyed traveling together. They visited many National Parks and always loved going to Pismo Beach.

Charles is survived by his wife Mary McGaha, his sister Reba Rodriguez of Concord, two daughters, Lori Dill (Russell), of Washington, Lisa Zurilgen (Walt), of Chowchilla, four granddaughters and 13 great grandchildren.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL COURT REPORTING AND CAP- TIONING WEEK

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Court Reporting and Captioning Week and in appreciation of court reporters across the country. Our court reporters play a critical role in our communities—they hold the vital responsibility to record history, assist those who are deaf or hard of hearing, and preserve judicial proceedings. I witnessed the dedication and professionalism of court reporters through my time as a special prosecutor, but more importantly I have seen the tremendous devotion of court reporters through my wife, Tawni, who has been a court reporter in western Wisconsin for over 25 years. Additionally, I want to recognize the outstanding work done by the Official House reporters, who transcribe proceedings verbatim in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and provide needed support for congressional committees.

The National Court Reporters Association and its members have also been instrumental for the success of the Veterans History Project, which was created by legislation I authored. This project is the largest oral history collection in United States history, having collected over 100,000 stories from our nation's veterans that are permanently stored at the Library of Congress and available to the public.

Shortly after the Veterans History Project was launched, court reporters across the country partnered with the Library of Congress to preserve the narratives of our nation's veterans by assisting in transcribing veterans' stories. To date, over 4,000 oral history transcripts have been submitted by court reporters to the Library of Congress. Not only have court reporters worked diligently with the Library of Congress to transcribe stories that had already been submitted, but many have personally interviewed veterans within their own communities. Without this admirable dedication from court reporters throughout the country, we would not be able to preserve many of these veterans' stories or record the sacrifices they made for our nation.

The National Court Reporters Foundation also launched a program called "The Hard of

Hearing Heroes Project," where veterans with hearing loss can be interviewed for the Veterans History Project through the use of real time captioning. This is a vital service because hearing loss is among the most common service-connected injury and an estimated 60 percent of veterans from the post 9/11 era who have returned from Iraq and Afghanistan suffer some form of hearing loss. The "Hard of Hearing Heroes Project" will help ensure every veteran has a chance to share his or her story.

As we celebrate National Court Reporting and Captioning Week, I want to thank the National Court Reporters Association and its many members throughout the country for their contributions to preserving history and for supporting those who are deaf or hard of hearing. I also particularly want to thank court reporters for their commitment to the Veterans History Project and to preserving veterans' stories for generations to come.

IN HONOR OF THE UNVEILING OF THE TUSKEGEE ARMY AIR FIELD HANGAR HISTORICAL MARKER

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the unveiling of the Tuskegee Army Air Field Hangar Historical Marker.

In 1941, the Tuskegee Army Air program was established to train approximately 1,000 of the first African-American pilots in U.S. military history during World War II. Along with over 13,000 support personnel, this group became known as the Tuskegee Airmen. The most well known of the Tuskegee Airmen were the members of the 332nd Fighter Group and its four fighter squadrons. The Tuskegee Airmen's 332nd Fighter Group and 99th fighter squadron flew approximately 1500 combat missions, scoring 112 aerial victories, earning 96 Distinguished Flying Crosses and three Distinguished Unit citations.

The Tuskegee Army Air Field closed in 1947 and the facility's three hangars were relocated to municipal airports in Montgomery, Clanton, and Troy. However, the Tuskegee Army Air Field Hangar structure remains largely unchanged from the days of the Tuskegee Airmen.

On August 11, 2017 the Tuskegee Army Air Field Hangar was added to the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage. This Register includes historic, architectural, and archaeological landmarks that are deemed worthy of both recognition and preservation.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to join many others in recognizing the Tuskegee Army Air Field Hangar for its historical significance to the State of Alabama and to our Nation.

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